AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A bobbin of plastic comprising:

a cylinder formed integrally with two circumferential end flanges having a one piece injection moulded U-shaped channel,

wherein the ~~each~~ cylinder includes a plurality of cylinder elements each having a ~~slightly~~ curved, radially inner surface forming a circumference of the cylinder, and each end flange includes a plurality of spaced-apart, radial flange elements which are distributed along the circumference of the cylinder.

2. (Currently Amended) A bobbin as claimed in claim 1, in which the flange elements over the entire radial extent have a constant extension in a ~~the~~ circumferential direction, the flange elements of each end flange having a total extension in the circumferential direction which is equal to the circumference of the cylinder.

3. (Currently Amended) A bobbin as claimed in claim 1, in which a plurality of axial grooves are formed in an ~~the~~ outer circumferential surface of the cylinder, each groove extending an ~~the~~ entire length of the cylinder between a point between two adjoining flange elements of one end flange and a point between two adjoining flange elements of the other end flange.

4. (Currently Amended) A bobbin as claimed in claim 1, in which a plurality of axial grooves are formed in an~~the~~ inner circumferential surface of the cylinder, each groove extending an ~~the~~ entire length of the cylinder between a point between two adjoining flange elements of one end flange and a point between two adjoining flange elements of the other end flange.

5. (Currently Amended) A bobbin as claimed in claim 4, in which the plurality of axial grooves in the inner circumferential surface of the cylinder are located opposite to a ~~the~~ plurality of grooves in an~~the~~ outer circumferential surface of the cylinder ~~thereof~~ and are wedge-shaped in cross-section.

6. (Currently Amended) A bobbin as claimed in claim 1, in which each flange element ~~at its radially inner end~~ has a lug at a radially inner end of the flange element and the lug ~~which~~ extends past an ~~the~~ inner circumferential surface of the cylinder and has a circumferential extent that decreases radially inwards.

7. (Currently Amended) A bobbin as claimed in claim 1, in which at least one flange element of one end flange ~~at its radially outer end~~ has an articulated projection configured to hook ~~which at its free end is hookable~~ onto the other end flange.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a bobbin of plastic comprising:

injection moulding a one piece U-shaped channel, the one piece U-shaped channel having a plurality of cylinder elements ~~with a slightly curved surface~~ and two circumferential end flanges, each of the plurality of cylinder elements has a curved, radially inner surface and each end flange includes a plurality of spaced-apart, radial flange elements;

bending the U-shaped channel; and

connecting ~~the~~ ends of the U-shaped channel with each other in a position so the curved, radially inner surface of each cylinder element abuts against two adjacent cylinder elements to form an inner circumference of a cylinder~~slightly curved surfaces of the plurality~~

~~of cylinder elements form a cylinder and side walls of the U-shaped channel include a plurality of spaced apart wall elements distributed along the length of the channel.~~

9. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the connecting includes inserting into holes formed in a cylinder element of the U-shaped channel at a first end of the U-shaped channel protrusions formed on a projection at a second end of the U-shaped channel.

10. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the injection moulding a one piece U-shaped channel includes forming transverse inner grooves which extend an entire width of the U-shaped channel between a point between two adjoining flange elements of one end flange and a point between ~~wall elements of one side wall~~ and a point between two adjoining flange ~~wall~~ elements of the other end flange~~side wall~~.

11. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the injection moulding a one piece U-shaped channel includes providing at an end of each flange ~~wall~~ element connected with a cylinder element of the U-shaped channel a lug which extends past the cylinder element and has an extent decreasing in a longitudinal direction of the U-shaped channel~~, away from the wall element~~, and

the bending the U-shaped channel to form a cylinder includes bending the U-shaped channel until each lug is brought into abutment against a neighbouring lug.

12. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the injection moulding a one piece U-shaped channel includes forming transverse outer grooves which extend the entire width of the U-shaped channel between a point between two adjoining

flange ~~wall~~ elements of one end flange ~~side wall~~ and a point between two adjoining flange ~~wall~~ elements of the other end flange~~side wall~~.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A bobbin of plastic comprising:

a ~~cylinder including end flanges forming a~~ one-piece injection moulded U-shaped channel,

wherein the U-shaped channel includes a plurality of cylinder elements each having a ~~portion of a base of the U-shaped channel has a slightly~~ curved radially inner surface at the time the U-shaped channel is injection moulded and prior to the U-shaped channel being bent to form a cylinder, so that when the U-shaped channel is bent to form the cylinder, the curved radially inner surface of each cylinder element abuts against two adjacent cylinder elements to form ~~which forms~~ an inner circumference of the cylinder.

15. (New) A bobbin as claimed in claim 14, wherein the U-shaped channel includes two end flanges, each end flange having a plurality of flange elements having a constant extension in a circumferential direction that is equal to the circumference of the cylinder.

16. (New) A bobbin as claimed in claim 14, in which a plurality of axial grooves are formed in a radially outer surface of the U-shaped channel that is an outer circumferential surface of the cylinder, each groove extending an entire length between two adjacent cylinder elements.

17. (New) A bobbin as claimed in claim 14, in which a plurality of axial grooves are formed in a radially inner surface of the U-shaped channel that is an inner circumferential surface of the cylinder, each groove extending an entire length between two adjacent cylinder elements.

18. (New) A bobbin as claimed in claim 17, in which the plurality of axial grooves formed in the radially inner surface of the U-shaped channel are wedge-shaped in cross-section.

19. (New) A bobbin as claimed in claim 15, in which each flange element has a lug at a radially inner end, the lug is shaped to abut an adjacent lug when the U-shaped channel is bent to form the cylinder.

20. (New) A bobbin as claimed in claim 14, in which at least one flange element of one end flange has an articulated projection configured to hook onto the other end flange.

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